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(MORNING, EVENING AND SUNDAY.)

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cepted), 42,527

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, AUGUST 9.

Assassination of Premier Canovas.

A dispatch from Madrid to The Times

last night conveyed the unpleasant tidings

that Senor Canovas del Castillo, prime

minister of Spain, had been due to death

by an assassin, said to be an Italian an-

archist, at the watering place of Santa

Agueda, at about 11 o'clock Sunday after-

noon. The particulars will be found in

our news columns.

What effect the sudden taking off of

this statesman, the acknowledged leader

of the Spanish Conservative party, may

have upon the politics of the kingdom, it

is impossible to predict, in advance of

further developments. It would seem

probable, however, that such a shocking

event would tend to unite parties, and

out of indignation for the deed, cause

them to join in a vigorous prosecution of

the aims and methods which character-

ized the official policy of the late premier.

The cablegram advises us that today the

Queen Regent and court would return to

the capital, where Senor Sagasta and other

leaders have been asked to meet. The

assassination is greatly to be deplored.

Such crimes are senseless and useless as

remedial measures. In the present instance,

the murder of Canovas is not likely to lead

to milder practices on the part of the

Spanish authorities, in the conduct of the

Cuban war. It may result in a condition

of excitement and anger among the hot

headed population of Spain, which would

bring matters of difference with this coun-

try to a crisis, and compel our Government

to take some vigorous action at last.

Probably we shall know within a day

or so.

There is one thing connected with the

dismal event chronicled this morning that

by no means should be lost sight of. Can-

ovas del Castillo supported the hyena, Wey-

ler, in his wholesale assassinations and

butcheries of innocent men, women and

little children in Cuba. Now he lies dead

with an assassin's bullet in his head. It

looks like retributive justice.

Another Autocratic Joke.

The Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed, of

Maine, has contributed to the Illustrated

American a paper on an institutional ques-

tion of much interest. It has been sug-

gested by many able men, versed in public

affairs, that the co-ordination of our legis-

lative and executive national powers

might be improved; that between them, as

at present organized, responsibility for

transacting the business of the people is

so easily shifted, or is so intangible as

to be lost in the shuffle when anything

goes wrong, and somebody or something

is looked for to put the blame upon.

One of the remedies proposed has been

to give Cabinet officers seats in the Senate

tolerable power of the Speaker over patronage, in the form of committee assignments, grow until it has become sufficient to tend both majority and opposition elements in the body adjacently to his single will, and render legislation or action of any description absolutely subservient to his personal or political desires or interests.

From such a standpoint, it easily is understood that the Autocrat of the suppressed House would not be likely to favor a change of organization of the kind suggested. Obviously, the "status quo" is pretty good enough for him. He opposes borrowing anything from the English system of free, untrammelled, parliamentary government. Who can blame him? Our present system of placing the functions, privileges and powers of the popular branch of our national legislature completely in the keeping of a single Autocrat, vastly more content and pleasant for Thomas Brackett Reed.

Basswood Posting as Old Hickory.

It seldom has happened in the history of this country that the judicial action of a Federal court has been handled by the national press in such terms as mark editorial expressions of leading journals with regard to the recent injunction issued by Judge Jackson, in West Virginia, and directed against law-abiding citizens, to whom it assumes to deny the constitutional rights of free speech and peaceable assembly.

We cannot doubt that, by this time, Judge Jackson is sorry he spoke. If he patronizes a clipping agency and thus is able to read all that has been and is being said about him, it is difficult to see how he can escape the dilemma of reform or suicide. His offense must be rank, indeed, when the New York Evening Post, whose editor lately was given an honorary degree by Oxford University for his services in this country to British interests, is shocked by it. But even the Evening Post considers that actions like his "make plausible the complaint of the papers that the courts are partial," and regards the spread of such an opinion among the "common people," i. e., those without Oxford titles, as something to be deprecated on public grounds.

Other leading papers treat the erring justice with as little consideration for his personal feelings as if he were a candidate for office, with a dark page in his early life just discovered. They, or some of them, do not hesitate to insinuate that his injunction is a direct violation of the provision in the Constitution which says that the Congress shall not make any law "abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

But why should it surprise anyone that an inferior Federal judge should ignore a little thing like that, when he has before him the precedent and example established in the suppression of the House of Representatives, by its Speaker, accompanied with direct violations of the Constitution, committed with the full privy and consent of the National Executive? If the Administration and the Speaker may ignore and defy the Constitution in the interests of certain trusts, monopolies and so on, why may not a third class Federal judge do the same, for the benefit of a highly respectable party of capitalist coal operators? Every man, even including Thomas Brackett Reed and Marcus Aurelius Hanna, will admit that, as an academic proposition, it is wrong to violate the Constitution of the United States, particularly when the violator has taken an oath to support it. On the other hand, statesmen of the Reed, Hanna and Judge Jackson school appear to believe in that higher law which variously declares that "circumstances alter cases," that "necessity is the mother of invention," and that a great deal might be said for the rule laid down by that great legislator, Timothy Campbell, who declared that, between friends, the Constitution was as unimportant a factor in government as a member of the Congress under the rule of the Autocrat.

For these reasons we think that Judge Jackson should be allowed the palliation of high example. If we are to permit the Administration itself to treat the supreme law of the land as so much waste paper, we ought to be comparatively lenient to its satellites for adopting the pace thus set for them, with the toleration if not the consent of the nation.

Personally we are afraid that Judge Jackson is a victim to his patronym. It is conceivable that he may have thought drastic action such as he was bold enough to take savored much of the spirit and force of the original Jackson—he of historic fame and veneration. And it must be confessed that there is a point of resemblance between the two characters. It is the startling resemblance of salt-petre to Saint Peter.

In commenting on the British government's meretricious heart toward the timorous, the Westminster Gazette on Saturday remarked: "Everybody knows that the mission of the jury envoys is a farce of the highest kind." What has made it so, we wonder? It is because the bona fides of President McKinley in sending out a timorous commission to please silver Republicans, and then sending in a green-back-deceiving currency commission message to please gold Republicans, is open to question? We hope not. Of course it is fairly conceivable that, while Mr. McKinley supposedly would like to "do something for silver," he might be willing to do a good deal for gold. Most people are.

Russia must be an interesting place for travelers, especially when the czar encounters them in his journeyings. A recent writer on the subject of tours in that country describes a little episode which occurred near Moscow. The train stopped and was surrounded by soldiers, the blinds being drawn down, and a soldier stationed at each window, with orders to shoot anyone who attempted to draw aside the blinds or to leave the car. A lady who was passing from one part of the train to another was stopped by an officer, who refused to allow her to move another step, telling her it was as much as her life was worth to let anyone into the car

or out of the car. The lady remained standing from 9 p. m. till 4 a. m., when she collapsed from exhaustion, and no one dared move to assist her. Three trains went by the car during this time, but no body knew which contained the Emperor. If this story is true, it would seem as if the Russian empire were located on top of a volcano which might at any time break forth. When such precautions as these have to be taken to prevent the assassination of the ruler of the people, it seems to an ordinary American as if he would want to abdicate and live in peace somewhere like a common man. This sort of thing is worse than barbarism.

Cablegrams from Paris announce the arrival of the Duke of Aosta, nephew of King Humbert. This prince, it is said, is charged with a mission to the Orleans family, intended to prevent the duel between Prince Henri d'Orleans and the Italian Gen. Albertone. After so much fuss over the Abyssinian letters, it would be a pity to end the incident without a shot or a thrust or two. These duels in high life are generally of the advertising and very seldom of the undetaking order.

Assisted by our friendly advice and frequent admonitions, the excellent Mr. de Hale de Lome is spending his summer in hunting. Filibusters are the game, and so far he has proved a wretched shot. What he calls "filibusters" are not really that, but quite another kind of bird; but, such as they are, they have been plenty and he has not brought down one. Just now the chase is hot in Long Island Sound, at Wilmington, at St. Augustine and Jacksonville. Perhaps if he would take a tug and try the coast of Newfoundland he might have better sport. Cuban relief vessels have learned the tricks of the Spanish-American patrol and of Mr. Dupuy de Hale's secret service, but the latter have not secured vertical superposition upon the play of the former.

News was received yesterday that Gen. Maximo Gomez was marching with a strong detachment of the Cuban army to take personal command of the operations against Havana and Matanzas. Gen. Castillo, who is in front of the former position with two divisions, continues to attack the suburbs. Weyler was at Matanzas, but was reported as about to move his headquarters to Guines, a town in the southern part of Havana province, about thirty or thirty-five miles by rail from Matanzas and nearly the same distance from Havana. We do not much credit the report. Weyler is such an ardent coward that he would hesitate to leave the seacoast and his means of escape in case of a battle. All the same, it is to be hoped that the story is true.

Cheered by the dishonest straddle of the Maryland Democratic State platform the gold bolters of Pennsylvania, the great Harbottle included, seem to see a hope that they may ride back into the party on the treason which carried them out. If money will help them, there or elsewhere, it will be found available. Hanna and his coparceners in this country and England, would be willing to spend almost any amount to secure seats and influence for the gold bolters in future Democratic conventions. The rank and file of Democracy everywhere must be watchful, or the power of gold will betray the party again.

RIDDED WITH BULLETS.

Prompt Punishment of a Negro for Attempted Assault.

Glenwood, Ga., Aug. 8.—Nathaniel Mason, a negro employee at the residence of Dr. Charles A. Powell, attempted an assault last night upon Mrs. Powell, and was captured after a fierce struggle by her husband. In a short time nearly fifty of his neighbors arrived with guns and pistols at the scene.

It was declared that he had been shot in military fashion. After being given an opportunity to pray, Mason was placed against a pile of rocks and the mob drew up in a semi-circle in front of him. A signal from one of the leaders every rifle was pulled and a shower of lead found lodgment in the negro's body. He was left lying where he fell. The corner impelled a jury, which found a verdict of "death at the hands of parties unknown."

A grave was dug for him with the rock pile as his headstone.

THE DAY AT PLATTSBURG.

Church in the Morning and a Drive in the Afternoon.

Plattsburg, N. Y., Aug. 8.—President McKinley spent today quietly. This morning, in company with Vice President and Mrs. John, Secretary and Mrs. Alger, Hon. and Mrs. Walter Reed, Miss Frances Alger, and C. B. Pike, he attended services in the First Presbyterian Church, where the Rev. Dr. Reid, of Detroit, Mich., Secretary Alger's former pastor, officiated.

In the afternoon, President McKinley and Mrs. John, Secretary and Mrs. Alger, Hon. and Mrs. Walter Reed, Miss Frances Alger and Hon. and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid enjoyed a drive through the surrounding country.

Tomorrow the Presidential party will be the guests of ex-Gov. Woodbury at Burlington, Vt., going to that city by private yacht.

A SCORCHER'S RACE FOR LIFE.

Pursued by Frenzied Italians for Injuring a Child.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Aug. 8.—George Harris, a bicyclist, came near meeting a sad end yesterday because he ran down a little girl in the street and nearly killed her.

Harris came dashing down North Fourth avenue, where the big celebration of the feast of Madonna del Arco was in progress, with his clin almost on the bars. He rushed through a crowd in the street, ringing his bell and scattering those in the street in every direction.

Rosa Maliero was struck by the wheel and fell unconscious to the ground. Harris did not wait to see if she was injured, but picked himself up and started to pedal away.

The Italians who witnessed the accident were wild with anger, and, gathering a mob, pursued the wheelman down the avenue for five blocks, flashing stilettoes in the air.

Several times they almost had him by the coat tails, but the frightened man finally reached a down grade and got safely away. The Italians were so angry that they returned to their pavilions, procured ropes and made known their intention of lynching any scorcher who would attempt to dash through their ranks.

Crowding the Bubbles.

(From the Atchison Globe.)

There is one serious objection to the watermelon—the watermelon season makes a watermelon discontented with the size of her refrigerator.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

The dismissal of Daniel Morgan, disbanding officer of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, under the guise of a forced resignation, may be an illustration of the way the heads of departments intend to construct the record of the President with respect to the civil service reform law. The President in that order provided that every man whose record was sought or who was deemed a fit subject for removal should have charges preferred against him in writing and be granted an opportunity of meeting them. This order, commendable through and through, is now known to be violated in this open manner. No charges were preferred against Mr. Morgan, as stipulated, nor was he given a chance to meet them. He was simply requested to resign, and, rather than put his nose-in-law, Daniel Johnson, chief of the bureau, in trouble, he acquiesced.

Several weeks ago Secretary Gage appointed a Treasury commission to investigate the various bureaus under his charge, and this bureau was one of those investigated. It is said that this commission found much fault with the bureau, in which the disbursing officer was kept and recommended Mr. Morgan for dismissal on the grounds that such action would be "for the good of the service." Mr. Morgan is out, and the first infraction of the civil service law has been committed by President McKinley has occurred.

The Civil Service Commission has set on foot a quiet investigation of two or three of the collectors of internal revenue in Mark Hanna's State. Complaints have been received from the many of the storekeepers and gaugers that discrimination is being shown on account of the politics of the officials. The storekeepers and gaugers are assigned by the collectors to various points in the district, and their pay is based on the amount of the taxes they collect. The storekeepers and gaugers are assigned by the collectors to various points in the district, and their pay is based on the amount of the taxes they collect. The storekeepers and gaugers are assigned by the collectors to various points in the district, and their pay is based on the amount of the taxes they collect.

The ears of the director of the mint ought to be burning at a tremendous rate if there were any truth in the story that he is the most talked about man in the city in certain circles. Mr. Preston has called down upon him the wrath of the silver men, and he is being denounced right and left for his recent interview, in which he asserted that all nations would soon go to the gold basis, and that Mexico was preparing the way for such a change in her fiscal policy. The silver men admit that Mr. Preston is entitled to his own views on this subject, but they deny that as a public official, dealing entirely with the national treasury, he should be so openly advised by the press that he is the most talked about man in the city in certain circles.

The cable announced yesterday that Baron von Tietelman, the German ambassador who was recalled for the purpose of being put at the head of the financial affairs of the German empire, was in disgrace because of his recent newspaper interviews, in which he did too much talking for a shrewd diplomat. The only mistake the German diplomat made was to report to his government that he had been attributed to him. Baron von Tietelman is a most exemplary man in this particular compared with several other diplomats who might be named.

Take the case of the Spanish minister, for an instance. That gentleman, too, was put at the head of the financial affairs of the Spanish empire, was in disgrace because of his recent newspaper interviews, in which he did too much talking for a shrewd diplomat. The only mistake the German diplomat made was to report to his government that he had been attributed to him. Baron von Tietelman is a most exemplary man in this particular compared with several other diplomats who might be named.

RULES EXCHANGE REGARDS.

Czar and the Kaiser Make Pledges to One Another.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 8.—A state banquet was given at the palace at Peterhof last night in honor of the German Emperor and Empress. It was made the occasion of strong protestations in behalf of peace by the Czar and Emperor William. The Czar, in thanking the Kaiser for visiting Russia, referred to the visit as a fresh manifestation of the traditional bonds uniting the two empires, and as a precious guarantee of the maintenance of general peace.

Emperor William made a somewhat effusive reply. He seemed to be overwhelmed by the fact that the Czar had created him an admiral of the Russian navy, for which he thanked him. Continuing, he said:

"Your majesty's unalterable resolution to keep your people in peace finds in me the gladdest echo, and thus we will pursue the same paths and strive unitedly under that blessing of peace to guide the intellectual development of our peoples. I can, with full confidence, lay this promise anew in the hands of your majesty, and I know that I have the support of my whole people. I stand by your majesty's side with my whole strength in this great work of preserving the peace of the nations, and I will give your majesty my strongest support against any one who may attempt to disturb or break this peace."

FIGHT WITH DESPERADOES.

Allen and Joe Lightfoot, Father and Son, Shot by Officers.

Montgomery, Ala., Aug. 8.—Allen and Joe Lightfoot, father and son, two negro desperadoes, who have terrorized the people of Coffee and Geneva counties for a year, were overtaken in a public road near Pea River in Coffee county yesterday by five armed officers. A fight followed, in which many shots were exchanged. Allen Lightfoot was killed, being shot through the heart. His son was shot in the shoulder and will probably die. The wounded man in his sufferings bewailed the fact that he did not kill some of the officers.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET INDORSED.

Important Action Taken by the Ohio Silver Republicans.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 8.—The State central committee of the Silver Republican organization of Ohio held a meeting here last night and under authority vested in it by the State convention of last May, passed a resolution endorsing the Democratic State ticket and platform, on the ground that the Democrats had reaffirmed the Chicago platform and made the money question the issue. There were only seven members at the meeting.

The Ship Otto Floated.

Bridgewater, N. Y., Aug. 8.—The ship Otto, Capt. Bruhl, which stranded early Thursday morning, was pulled off the bar at 2 o'clock this afternoon and at once started in tow for New York. The extent of the damage to the ship is not known. The captain and his crew have never left the ship since she struck the bar.

The Truth.

(From the Chicago Dispatch.)

"Was it a gold pen with which the tariff bill was signed?" asks a correspondent. No, it was just a plain steel.

IN HOTEL LOBBIES.

"There are features of the new Klondike gold discoveries which some people overlook," said Mr. W. P. Hill, who arrived at the Shoreham from Chicago last night. Mr. Hill is the cashier for the firm of Joy, Morton & Co., Mr. Morton being the son of Hon. J. Sterling Morton, ex-Secretary of Agriculture. "The people of Chicago, like all others over the country, have caught the Klondike fever, after the Chicago fashion, and the almost detail of a trip from the lakes to Alaska has been discussed in every business house in the city. I have the fever myself, and know something about it. The special point I want to emphasize is that it has been determined, as a consensus of opinion, that it is dangerous to start to Alaska from Chicago with less than \$1,000 in your pocket. I think there will be no danger of starting there, or even going hungry, for the North American Trading Company, which has been buying goods from us to ship there for several years past, has given us orders for three times the quantities of goods usually shipped, and this company knows what it is about. We are sending many carloads of dried oats, corn grits, and all kinds of cereal foods to Alaska, and other firms are shipping similar lots of dried and canned meats, etc."

There will be an abundance of food delivered at Dawson City and other points before the cold weather, but the poor man who goes there without sufficient funds will fare five times worse than he will here, because everything that arrives there in the shape of necessary food and clothing sells for five times the price it does here. A thousand dollars there will keep a man about as long as \$200 will here. It is also a mistake to compare Klondike to California in '49. There is comparatively easy communication to Alaska now. All railroads and steamboats across the United States and in the Pacific waters have been built since, and methods of living and traveling in rough countries have been almost entirely changed. But it is suicide to start without sufficient money."

Congressman Rowland B. Mahony, of Buffalo, left Willard's last night for his home.

Mr. F. S. Patridge, representing a large wholesale liquor establishment of New York, said at Willard's last night that the new tariff has not as yet affected his business to any great extent.

Hon. Albert D. Lusk, of Galveston, Texas, is at the Arlington for a few days on politics and pleasure.

WIDRIG GIVES HIMSELF UP.

Tries to Create the Impression That He Is Insane.

Buffalo, Aug. 8.—William Widrig, the Springfield wife-murderer, who had kept his liberty although 600 men had searched for him from dawn through the woods of Catusaugus county and part of Erie county, was seen to get off a freight train on the T. B. R. and P. road at Machias station at 11 o'clock last night, and disappeared in the woods. The news was taken to the village hotel, and half a hundred men were collected and by the deputy sheriff, were turned into the hands of Sheriff Laney and Sheriff Williams.

A maid who found the name on the register and lay down on a sofa. A maid who found the name on the register and lay down on a sofa. A maid who found the name on the register and lay down on a sofa.

The hotel man ran into the kitchen again and appeared at the station a few moments later. Widrig sat down on a bench and fell into a doze. In a short time Sheriff Laney and Sheriff Williams, of Catusaugus county, arrived and took him into custody.

Widrig was brought to jail, where he began violent demonstrations, evidently intending to create the idea of insanity. He refused to say whether he had or had not killed his wife and claimed to be in great physical pain.

A physician who examined him said that his constitution was affected by the excitement of the man-hunt, but he was perfectly sane.

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